

COLLECTION OF INSTRUCTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE SERVICE

Year: 2022 High Tatras, 20 April 2022 Section: 10

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10.

Instruction of the Director of the Mountain Rescue Service of 20 April 2022 issuing instructions of the Mountain Rescue Service concerning the safety of persons in mountain areas in the performance of organised activities

Art. 1 Fundamental Provisions

- 1. In order to increase safety in the performance of mountain guiding activities and the performance of specialised activities in the field of physical culture in mountain areas, instructions of the Mountain Rescue Service within the meaning of Section 5(1)(e) of Act No. 544/2002 Coll. concerning the safety of persons in mountain areas in the performance of organised activities are issued.
- 2. The instructions of the Mountain Rescue Service concerning the safety of persons in mountain areas in the performance of organised activities are given in Annex 1.

Art. 2 Repealing Provision

1. This Instruction repeals the Director's Instruction No. 9/2016 of 15 June 2016, which issues instructions of the Mountain Rescue Service concerning the safety of persons in mountain areas in the performance of organised activities.

Art. 3

1. This Instruction shall enter into effect on 20 April 2022.

Col. Mgr. Marek Biskupič, Ph.D. Director of the Mountain Rescue Service

Copies: Supervisors at all levels of management

For the attention of: All officers and staff of the Mountain Rescue Service

Instructions of the Mountain Rescue Service relating to the safety of people moving in the mountainous areas in organized groups

These Instructions are issued in order to increase safety in the performance of mountain leadership activities, mountain tour guiding activities, and in carrying out specialized activities in the field of physical culture in mountainous areas within the meaning of the provisions of § 3 (1) of Act No. 544/2002 Coll. on the Mountain Rescue Service.

These Instructions apply to the organization of the sporting and other events within the boundaries of cities and towns and their surrounding areas, on the ski trails when in operation, on paved paths and roads, in accommodation facilities, and in places that are accessible by mountain transport machines during their operation.

Instructions were prepared pursuant to the par. 5 (1) (e) of Act No. 544/2002 Coll. on the Mountain Rescue Service, and in dialogue with representatives of the Slovak National Association of Mountain Guides (Národná asociácia horských vodcov Slovenskej republiky), the Slovak National Association of Mountain Leaders (Národná asociácia horských sprievodcov), the Slovak Mountaineering Union – JAMES (Slovenský horolezecký spolok JAMES), the Slovak Tourist Club (Klub slovenských turistov), and the Slovak Mountaineering Association (Slovenský vysokohorský turistický spolok).

Article I Basic Obligations

of every person moving in mountainous areas:

Use a climbing helmet when moving in the terrain of Class II, or higher, of the UIAA International Climbing Scale.¹⁾

Use a climbing sit harness when moving in the terrain graded as II, and higher, of the UIAA International Climbing Scale, as well as in a less demanding terrain where there is a risk of fall from height.

Use rope techniques to ensure the safety when moving in the terrain graded as II, and higher, of the UIAA International Climbing Scale, as well as in a less demanding terrain with a risk of fall from height.

Have an avalanche finder/beacon, along with an avalanche probe and avalanche shovel, always with you when there is a risk of avalanche of any grade.

The climbing gear used must meet the necessary EN or UIAA standards.

Only the grading scales contained in the Annex to these Instructions shall apply to the assessment of difficulty of a particular terrain. The grades assigned to a particular terrain in various climbing and ski mountaineering guides shall be ignored.

^{1) § 2}g (1) (b) (2) of the Act No. 544/202 Coll. the Mountain Rescue Service, as amended

Person in charge:

When moving in Class II, or higher, of the UIAA International Climbing Scale, have the material for improvised rescue, consisting of at least two (2) pieces of safety ropes with a minimal diameter of 4 mm and a minimum length of 4 meters, two (2) pieces of HMS snap hooks with safety locks, and two (2) pieces of snap hooks of same shape without locks.

In carrying out activities, have a cell phone with a charged battery, a map of the area (in an electronic form), and a first aid kit containing the following: three elastic bandages, one pair of non-sterile gloves, a triangular bandage, adhesive band, thermo-foil, two sterile bandages, scissors/knife, Pruban (a head bandage), disinfectant solution, a chemical heater, and medicaments for pain, fever and diarrhea.

Person in charge is also obliged to advise clients in the group about the need to keep their own long-term treatment medications with, if any, especially those suffering from allergies, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases. Allergy sufferers need to have anti-allergy medicines, especially EPIPEN, the "adrenaline pen", if applicable, and/or any other antihistamines; diabetics need to take medicines and equipment to manage their diabetes (pills, insulin, sugar, and glucometer). The client's health status shall be inquired about in advance in a legal way (with the client consenting to information about their health), and advise him/her of the need to keep their own medicaments with.

Restrict the field activities when Grade 4 of avalanche danger was announced, and adapt the program and the number of persons when Grade 3 of avalanche danger was announced.

Restrict the field activities and adapt the program and the number of persons when Grade 3 alerts were announced by the Slovak Hydrometeorology Institute.

Organizers of sporting and other events:

In organizing sporting and other events in the mountainous area, for example in carrying out specialized activities in the field of physical culture in the mountainous areas, except for the mountain leadership activities and mountain tour guiding activities, the organizer of such events is required to inform the Mountain Rescue Service, at least three days before the event, about the focus and location of the event, using the form that can be found at https://www.hzs.sk/uradna-tabula/ and, if necessary, pre-designate a person/persons to arrange for the first aid administration and to call the Mountain Rescue Service on the phone number 18 300.

In organizing a sporting and other event, except for specialized activities in the field of physical culture in the mountainous areas, and for the mountain leadership activities, and mountain tour guiding activities, namely:

- Out of the hiking trails;
- In events with over 50 participants;
- With the event to take place in multiple locations,

the organizer is obliged to discuss security measures with an official of the regional center of MRS.

Article II Activities of Mountain Guides

Activities of mountain guides means leading and accompanying people in the mountain and alpine environments outside hiking trails and paths, and leading training in the alpine disciplines:

- a) On the pedestrian hikes and climbing on rock, ice and snow, or a combination of the above terrains;
- b) On ski-alpine or ski tours and in downhill skiing on untreated and deep snow.

Activities of mountain guides can be performed only by a mountain guide possessing a valid certificate of professional competence to carry out activities of mountain guides, issued by the National Association of Mountain Leaders of the Slovak Republic, or a by foreign legal person, who is a member of the International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations (UIAGM/IFMGA) based in Schwandvorsass, Switzerland.

A Mountain Guide shall present him-/herself with an international pass of the UIAGM/IFMGA Mountain Guide, with a valid stamp of the calendar year, the specimen of which is attached as the Annex 1.

List of Mountain Guides organized in the National Association of Mountain Guides of the Slovak Republic is published on http://www.nahvsr.sk/clenovia/.

The maximum number of clients per one Mountain Guide, in leading and accompanying clients on the pedestrian and climbing tours is as follows:

Terrain	UIAA Climbing Scale	Max. number of clients
	CH, I, including	5
Rock	Over I – II, including	3
	Over II	2
Combined (rock, snow, ice)	CH, I, including	3
Combined (fock, show, ice)	Over I	2
Torrange and Cime inc	Up to 30°, including	3
Icy snow and firn, ice	Up to 30°	2

The maximum number of clients per one Mountain Guide in leading and accompanying clients on ski-alpine or ski tours and in downhill skiing on untreated and deep snow, is as follows:

Activity	Severity	Max. number of clients
Ski touring	S1, S2	6
Clai mountainaarina taura	S3	6
Ski mountaineering tours	S4	2
Freeride - ski/snowboard	S3 – S4	6
	S5 and up	1
Walk using snowshoes	S1, S2	10

The maximum number of clients per one Mountain Guide in conducting the training:

Training of	Limitation	Max. number of clients
Climbing basics on a training	Up to VI+, including	4
rock		
Rock climbing on a rock and in	Up to VI, including	3
a combined field		
Ice climbing	Up to WI3, including	4
Alpine skiing	Up to S3, including	6
Movement within avalanche-	Without skis	8
threatened terrain	With skis up to S3	6

Art. III. Mountain guiding activity

Mountain guiding activities are understood the guiding of people in mountain and alpine environments without the need to use mountaineering equipment and gear to ensure the advancement of guided people:

- a) on and off marked hiking trails and routes without snow cover up to the first degree of climbing difficulty according to the international scale of the UIAA (the International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation),
- b) off hiking trails and routes with snow cover on snowshoes and cross-country skis.

Mountain guiding activities can be performed by a natural person who has a valid certificate of professional competence to perform mountain guiding activities issued by the Slovak Mountain Guides Association or by a foreign legal entity that is a member of the Union of International Mountain Leader Associations (UIMLA) based in Champéry, France.

A mountain guide shall be identified by the UIMLA International Mountain Guide Card with a stamp valid in the relevant calendar year, a specimen of which is given in Annex 1.

The list of mountain guides organized by the Slovak Mountain Guides Association is published on the page: http://www.mountainleader.sk/horskisprevodcovia.

Maximum numbers of clients per 1 mountain guide when accompanying clients on hikes:

Terrain	UIAA climbing scale	Max. number of clients
Terrain (also hiking trails)	CH – I	5

Maximum numbers of clients per 1 mountain guide when accompanying clients on ski tours on hiking trails:

Activity	Difficulty level	Max. number of clients
Hike with snowshoes	S1, S2	10

Maximum numbers of clients per 1 mountain guide when accompanying clients on hikes in non-adapted and deep snow:

Activity	Difficulty level	Max. number of clients
Hike with cross-country skis	S1, S2	6
Hike with snowshoes	S1, S2	10

Maximum numbers of aspirants per 1 mountain guide when conducting training:

Training	Limitation	Max. number of clients
Movement in the terrain	CH - I	5
Movement in the terrain with the	S1, S2	6
use of snowshoes		

Article IV Carrying out Specialized Activities in the Field of Physical Culture in Mountainous Areas

Specialized activity in the field of physical culture is an activity performed in different areas of the physical culture by a specialist - Instructor (hereinafter "Instructor"). For the needs of these instructions, physical culture includes organized activities (individual or group) related to physical education, tourism, sporting, and the movement-recreational activities in the area:

- Climbing (climbing in the mountains, alpine skiing, ice climbing, rock climbing, dry-tooling);
- Mountain tourism (movement on and out of hiking trails);
- Tourism (movement on hiking trails).

Training in a specific sport shall be lead by Instructor with adequate theoretical knowledge, practical experience and skills qualifying him/her to lead sports training at the recreational, high-performance, or peak levels. The process of training observes the teaching principles; training is conducted in line with the current methodology of the home organization in a given sport. The aim of the training is to develop knowledge and practical skills of the participant.

Instructor is an expert in category:

• Instructor of I to III qualification level.

Instructor shall identify him-/herself with a certificate not older than five years issued by the relevant accredited facility.

Specimen of Instructor's certificate of the Slovak Mountaineering Association is shown in Annex 2.

Specimen of Instructor's certificate of the Slovak Tourist Club is shown in Annex 3.

Specimen of Instructor's certificate of the Slovak Mountaineering Union – JAMES is shown in Annex 4.

The list of accredited educational institutions with the right to issue to the graduates of qualification courses, the certificates of professional competence to carry out specialized activities in the field of physical culture (along with the names of individual professional competences) can be found at: https://www.minedu.sk/data/files/5432.xls

List of climbing instructors organized by the Slovak Mountaineering Union – JAMES is published at http://www.james.sk/articles.asp?pageid=31&id_dependency=2705, MCI and SMI workbooks.

List of alpine hiking instructors organized by the Slovak Tourist Club is published at http://www.kst.sk/index.php/vysokohorska-turistika-cinnosti-69.

List of alpine hiking instructors of the Slovak Mountaineering Association is listed at http://www.svts.sk/metodika/instruktori/.

The above provisions shall likewise apply to instructors of foreign associations and clubs associating its members in the field of hiking and climbing.

The maximum number of participants per one climbing instructor in conducting training, with a maximum of 3 persons per one rope:

Training of	Limitation	max. Number of participants / members
Climbing on rock and in a combined field	Up to VI, including	3
Ice climbing	Up to WI3 including	4

Maximum number of participants per one alpine skiing instructor in conducting training:

Training of	Limitation	Max. number of participants / members
	S1, S2	6
Alpine skiing	S3, S4	3
	S5 ad up	1

Maximum number of participants per one alpine hiking instructor in conducting the training:

Training of	Limitation	Max. number of participants / members
Alpine hiking	CH, I, including	5
Aipine mking	Over I, II, including	3

The maximum number of participants in trekking to 1 instructor - responsible group leader:

Club activities	Limitation	Max. number of participants / members
Alpine hiking	Up to II, including	5
The group must be dressed up and organized so as to be able, in case of a sudden threat to life and		
health, to form two independent rope teams		

Maximum number of participants per one hiking instructor in conducting the training:

Training of	Limitation	Max. number of participants / members
Hiking	TZCH	10

Maximum number of participants per one hiking instructor - the group leader in charge:

Club activities	Limitation	Max. number of participants / members
Hiking	TZCH	20

Note: The above number of persons (clients, participants, members) are set for ideal weather conditions; in changed weather conditions, reconsidered the number of persons due to their safety.

Article V School Trips

At school trips conducted on the marked hiking trails that are not secured by artificial climbing aids (ladders, tacks, etc.), the organizer is obliged to provide 2 persons in charge per every 10 children, with one person in charge to lead the group at its head, and the other to remain at its end. One additional person shall be provided per each additional 10 children.

In case of school trips with children from the second grade of elementary school up, to be conducted on the tourist marked paths, which are secured by artificial climbing aids (ladders, tacks, etc.), the organizer is obliged to provide the group with:

Two persons in charge per 5 children;

Three persons in charge per 10 children;

Four persons in charge per 20 children;

Five persons in charge per 30 children;

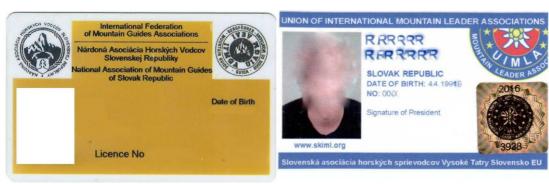
Six persons in charge per 40 children;

with one person in charge to lead the group at its head, and the other to remain at its end. Conducting school trips with children of the first grade of elementary school along the marked hiking trails that are secured by artificial climbing aids (ladders, tacks, etc.) is not recommended.

Article VI

These Instructions are without prejudice to obligations under existing legislation, e.g. Communication on Cross-Border Provision of Services in the Slovak Republic http://www.minv.sk/?cezhranicne-poskytovanie-sluzieb; any constraints imposed by the Act on Nature and Landscape Protection, Visiting Schedules and ownerships of immovable properties, and other rights and obligations under other laws, shall also not be affected hereby.

ANNEX 1 - Specimen of Certificate and Pass of UIAGM/IFMGA and UIMLA









Slovenská asociácia horských sprievodcov Vysoké Tatry, Starý Smokovec 23, IČO: 50068903

Evidenčné číslo osvedčenia: 2015/004 Platnosť osvedčenia: 12.12.2018 Vysoké Tatry: 13.12.2015

Na základe Zákona 274/2015 Z.z., ktorým sa mení a dopĺňa zákon č. 544/2002 Z.z. o Horskej záchrannej službe a ktorým sa mení a dopĺňa Zákon č. 455/1991 Z.z. O živnostenskom podnikaní v znení neskorších predpisov vydávame

Osvedčenie

o odbornej spôsobilosti na výkon horskej sprievodcovskej činnosti¹

Certificate of completion

X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X0X

narodený(á) born:

bydlisko address:

X0X0X0X0X0X0X miesto narodenia place of birth:

rodné číslo identification number: bydlisko address:

úspešne ukončil(a) kurz: **Medzinárodný horský sprievodca** v trvaní: Has successfully completed training of International mountain leaders:

372 hodin (hours)2

Ing. Milan Tomaškovič president of UILMA/SK

Bc. Peter Svätojánsky secretary of UIMLA/SK

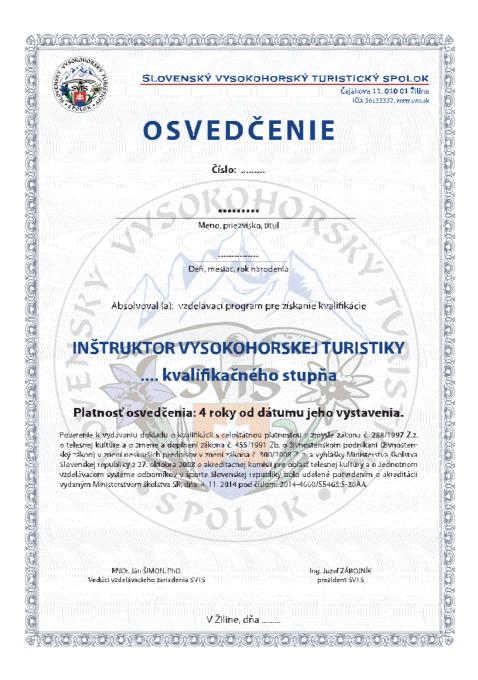
Mgr. Marcel Kubinský

osvedčenie umožňuje jeho majiteľa požiadať o vydanie živnostenského oprávnenia zákona č. 455/1991 Zb. v znení neskorších predpie

AB * 7233606

ANNEX 2 - Specimen of Certificate and Pass of the Instructor of the Slovak Mountaineering Association





ANNEX 3 - Specimen of Certificate and Pass of the Instructor of the Slovak Tourist Club



Klub slovenských turistov 831 03 Bratislava, Záborského 33, IČO 00688321

OSVEDČENIE

o absolvovaní vzdelávania a získaní kvalifikácie

narodený (á)v		
absolvoval (a) v dňoch		
ukončený skúškami a je spôsobilý (á) vykonávať	funkcių	
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Toto osvedčenie vydáva Klub slovenských turistov (KST) na základe akreditácie svojho vzdelávacícho zariadenia Ministerstvom školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu,		
élslo protokolu 2014-4580/26767:5-30AA, zo dň vydávať absolveniom vzdelávacích kurzov príslu		
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V		
predseda skúsobnej komisie	vedúci vzdelávanieho kurzu	

ANNEX 4 - Specimen of Certificate and Pass of the Instructor of the Slovak Mountaineering Union - JAMES



Horolezecká škola JAMES Slovenský horolezecký spolok JAMES

Junácka 6. 832 80 Bratislava IČO 00586455, DIČ 2020871974 Právna forma: 701 Združenie Číslo registrácie MV SR: VVS/1-909/90-96

udeluje

OSVEDČENIE

Inštruktor horolezectva I. kvalifikačného stupňa

číslo: xxx-1/20xx

Meno a priezvisko Narodený (-á): dd. mm. rrrr

Je oprávnený samostatne viesť výcvik lezenia vo všetkých borských oblastiach (skalné, neveľborské, veľborské), ako aj všetkých druhoch terénu (umelé steny, skala, sneh ľad, mix, ľadovec).

Absolvoval (-a)

Kurz inštruktorov horolezectva I. kvalifikačného stupňa



v rozsahu 189 hodin

Seminár inštruktorov horolezectva v rozsahu 22 bodin

Poverenie k vydávaniu itokladu o kvalifikácii s celoštátnou platnosťou v zmysle zákona č. 288/1997 Z. z. o telesnej kultúre a o zmene a doplneni zákona č. 455/1991 Zb. o živnostenskem podnikaní v zneni neskořich predpisov v zneni zákona č. 300/2003 Z. z. bolo udelené potvrdením o akreditácii vydaným Ministerstvom školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky ako prislušným orgánom dňa 06.66.2012 pod čislom: 2012-3498/25274:4-10

V xxxxxxxx, dňa dd. mesiac rrrr

Platnosť osvedčenia do 31.12.20xx

Titul Meno Priezvisko predseda skúšobnej komisie Titul Meno Priezvisko štatutárny zástupca VZ

Odtlaček pečiatky vzdelávacieho zariadenia

Horolezecká škola JAMES Slovenský horolezecký spolok JAMES

Junácka 6. 832 80 Bratislava IČO 00586455, DIČ 2020871974 Právna forma: 701 Združenie Číslo registrácie MV SR: VVS/1-909/90-96

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OSVEDČENIE

Inštruktor skialpinizmu I. kvalifikačného stupňa

číslo: xxx-2/20xx

Meno a priezvisko Narodený (-á): dd. mm. rrrr

Je oprávnený samostatne viesť výcvik skialpinizmu (t.). lyžovania a pobybu na lyžiach v horách a hordezeckých činnosti s lyžami) vo všetkých snehových aj ľadovcových neveľhorských a veľhorských oblastiach.

Absolvoval (-a)

Kurz inštruktorov skialpinizmu I. kvalifikačného stupňa



v rozsahu 186 hodin

Seminár inštruktorov skial pinizmu v rozsahu 22 bodín

Poverenie k vydávaniu dokladu o kvalifikácii s celoštátnou plotnosťou v zmysle zákona č. 288/1997 Z. z. o telesnej kultúre a o zmene a doplacni zákona č. 455/1991 Zb. o živnostenskom podnikani v zmeni neskorších predpisov v zmeni zákona č. 300/2008 Z. z. bolo udelené potvzdením o akreditácii vydaným Ministerstvom školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky ako prislušným orgánom dňa 06.66.2012 pod čislom: 2012-3498/25274:4-10

V xxxxxxxx, dňa dd. mesiac mm

Platnosť osvedčenia do 31.12.20xx

Titul Meno Priezvisko predseda skúšobnej komisie Titul Meno Priezvisko štatutárny zástupca VZ

Odtlačok pečiatky vzdelávacieho zariadenia

Horolezecká škola JAMES Slovenský horolezecký spolok JAMES

Junácka 6. 832 80 Bratislava IČO 00586455, DIČ 2020871974 Právna forma: 701 Združenie Číslo registrácie MV SR: VVS/1-909/90-96

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OSVEDČENIE

Inštruktor skalného lezenia I. kvalifikačného stupňa

číslo: xxx-3/20xx

Meno a priezvisko Narodený (-á): dd. mm. rrrr

Je oprávnený samostatne viesť výcvik lezenia v skalných oblastiach neveľborských terénov a na umelých stenách. Pod vedením nětruktora horolezectva sa môže podieľať na vedení výcviku horolezectva v skalnom teréne vo veľborách, alebo pod vedením inštruktora skialpinizmu na vodení skialpinistiekého výcviku.

Absolvoval (-a)

Kurz inštruktorov skalného lezenia I. kvalifikačného stupňa



Seminár inštruktorov skalného lezenia v rozsahu 15 hodin

Poverenie k vydávaniu dokladu o kvalifikácii s osloštátnou platnosťou v zmysle zákona č. 288/1997 Z. z. o telesnej kultúre a o zmene a doplneni zákona č. 455/1991 Zb. o živnostenskem podnikaní v zneni neskořích predpisov v znení zákona č. 300/2008 Z. z. holo telesné potvrdením o akreditácii vydaným Ministerstvom školstva, vedy. výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky ako príslušným orgánom dňa 06.05.2012 pod číslom: 2012-3498/25274/4-10

V xxxxxxxx, dña dd. mesiac rrrr

Platnosť osvedčenia do 31.12.20xx

Titul Meno Priezvisko predseda skůšobnej komisie Titul Meno Priezvisko štatutárny zástupca VZ

Odtlaček pečiatky vzdelávacieho zariadenia

ANNEX 5 - UIAA Climbing Severity Scale

	Level	Description	
I.	Easy	The simplest form of rock climbing, but no longer a hiking terrain; hands must be used to ensure the balance	
	Light difficulty	Beginners must be secured with a rope; they must not suffer from dizziness	
II.	Mild difficult	Here begins the real climbing where the three-point technique is required	
	Mild difficulty	It is necessary to ensure the safety with a rope in steep sections	
III.	Moderate difficult	Perpendicular places or overhangs with good handholds already require physical strength	
	Medium difficulty	In steep sections – inter-safety points are recommended; trained and experienced climbers may climb sections of this grade of difficulty without the use of a rope	
IV.	Difficult	This grade means the real climbing; sufficient climbing experience is necessary	
	Hard difficulty	Climbing sections usually require more safety points; the use of a safety rope is already usual also with trained and experienced climbers	
V.	Very difficult	Climbing is increasingly demanding as to the physical fitness, technique and experience; in the Alps long trips of this grade are considered the events	
	Very hard difficulty	The number of intermediate safety points is increasing	
VI.	Severe	Climbing requires above-average skills and good training; steepness is often associated with small resting posts	
	Severe difficulty	Using the safety points is a common-place	
VII.	Very severe	Can be done only with increased training and use of a special equipment; even excellent climbers need special training for a particular type of the rock to be able to climb the sections of this grade reliably, without falling	
	Very severe difficulty	A perfect safety technique is inevitable	
VIII - IX	previous escalation of difficulties	Very high demands on the special training and equipment, ascents and climbing sections of extreme grades can often be handled only after previous drilling and getting appropriate climbing habits; reserved for top climbers.	
X -XI.	The current climbing limit in free climbing	Previous drilling is necessary, even the best top climbers are not able to repeat the sections of this grade very often; both the ideal conditions (external and mental) as well as perfect concentration on the performance are necessary to climb these sections; this grade is climbed only with the upper safety roping or safety points installed in advance	

ANNEX 6 - The Traynard Ski-Mountaineering Scale

Grade	Description
S1	Flat-like terrain
S2	Slightly sloping, broad terrain of up to 30°, without steep sections
S 3	Slopes and not too steep couloirs of up to 30° - 35°, sometimes with short steep sections
S4	Couloirs and slopes of 40 $^{\circ}$ - 45 $^{\circ}$, where the exposure to steep sections is not too long
S5	Couloirs of 45° - 55°, with a long exposure
S6	Slope of over 50° with a long exposure, otherwise over 55°
S7	Slope of 60°, jumps over rock bands and glacier fractures on the very steep slopes

ANNEX. 7 - The Alps Scale for Ice Climbing

Grade	Description
WI1	Slight sloping of the ice, no gear;
WI2	Ice slope of 60°, good quality, with possible steps, good safety points;
WI3	Ice slope of 70° with possible steps of 80° - 90° with appropriate resting posts and good safety possibilities;
WI4	Continuous ice slope of 80°, quite long sections of 90°, brittle ice with occasional resting posts;
WI5	Long and demanding ice for a rope length and a gradient of 85°-90°, a few good resting posts, or a short step of thin, less dense or bad ice, misplaced safety points;
WI6	Ice for the entire length of the rope with a gradient of 90° degrees, with no possibility of rest, or a short section of thin, less dense ice worse than WI5, very technical climbing
WI7	As WI6, but thin, light, less dense ice, or long, overhanging light icicle hanging to the ground; safety roping/points are impossible or very difficult and are of doubtful quality;
WI8	Greater difficulty and danger higher than WI7

Abbreviations:

UIAGM - The Union Internationale des Associations de Guides de Montagne)/

International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations

UIMLA - The Union of International Mountain Leader Associations is an international nongovernmental

organization associating national associations of Mountain Leaders

UIAA - Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinism/ International Mountaineering and Climbing Federation